



2005 Weather Crop 05

Issued 3:00 P.M. 05/02/05

Week Ending May 1, 2005

COOL, WET WEATHER DELAYED FIELD ACTIVITIES

Showers and cool temperatures across Tennessee last week delayed most agricultural activities, resulting in only 3 days being suitable for fieldwork. Wet conditions hampered producers in their efforts to plant corn, cotton, soybeans, and tobacco. Currently, soybean planting progress is slightly ahead of the normal pace, while corn and cotton progress is slightly behind. Winter wheat development is also slightly behind last year and the 5-year average. The condition rating continued to be mostly good, despite evidence of Stripe rust showing up in a number of counties and reports of frost damage to some of the crop. Hay harvest began on a limited basis this week, as did tobacco transplanting. Greenhouse tobacco plants are being clipped and sprayed with insecticides and fungicides in anticipation of favorable weather. Middle and eastern parts of the State experienced some frost damage to fruits, vegetables, and winter wheat last week with losses expected to be minor. Other agricultural activities taking place last week included applying fungicides to winter wheat and spraying pastures for weeds and buttercups.

As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 74 percent adequate and 26 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 78 percent adequate and 22 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged 7 to 9 degrees below normal across the State last week, while rainfall averaged slightly below normal in the West to over an inch and a half above normal in Middle Tennessee.

CROP PROGRESS: Through May 1, 2005					CONDITION: On April 29, 2005					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2004	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Winter Wheat - Headed	60	27	68	64	Winter Wheat	2	10	27	47	14
Corn - Planted	77	63	86	82	Alfalfa Hay	0	2	24	62	12
Corn - Emerged	48	24	66	59	Other Hay	1	3	19	64	13
Soybeans - Planted	6	3	4	4	Pastures	0	3	17	67	13
Cotton - Planted	8	3	4	15	Cattle	0	2	20	65	13
Apples - Blooming or Beyond	91	76	93	95						
Peaches - Blooming or Beyond	99	93	93	95						
Alfalfa Hay - 1 st Cutting	1	na	3	5						
Other Hay - 1 st Cutting	3	na	2	4						

na = not available

CORN: Wet fields slowed producers last week, as planting continues to lag about a week behind last year. As of Sunday, over three-fourths of the corn acreage had been planted with mostly river bottom fields remaining. Almost half of the planted acreage has emerged.

WHEAT: The wheat crop continues to be rated in mostly good condition with three-fourths of the State’s acreage headed. Stripe rust continues to be a problem in a number of counties, and growers treated fields with fungicides as needed and as weather permitted.

COTTON & SOYBEANS: Cotton and soybean producers have been hampered from making any significant progress planting this year’s crops due to cool, wet conditions. Farmers will need warmer, drier soil conditions before shifting planting into high gear.

FRUITS & VEGETABLES: Virtually, all the State’s peach crop had bloomed last week with the apple crop development not too far behind normal. Frost last week caused minor damage to some strawberry, tomato, and nursery plants.

PASTURES, HAY, & CATTLE: The first cutting of both alfalfa and other hay got off to a slow start last week due to unfavorable weather conditions. Both alfalfa and other hay were rated in mostly good condition, while eighty percent of the pasture acreage was rated in good-to-excellent condition. The recent moisture over the last couple of weeks has aided pasture growth. Cattle were also rated in mostly good condition.

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending May 1 st , 2005				Current Week	Rain	Current Since	Departure From		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	5/1/05	Days	January 1	Normal	Since April 1 Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	72	33	56	-9	2.39	5	21.87	+2.23	87	-31
Tri-City_RGNL_A	66	32	50	-9	2.01	5	13.97	+0.18	46	+21
Brownsville_TN	71	38	55	-10	2.88	5	19.52	+0.15	102	+41
Chattanooga/Lov	75	33	55	-8	1.47	4	16.10	-4.08	90	+20
Clarksville_Sew	67	37	55	-7	4.27	4	18.45	+0.20	83	+9
Cookeville	65	31	49	-12	1.90	4	19.15	-0.71	41	+27
Covington	71	39	54	-10	2.04	4	18.73	-0.65	87	-5
Crossville_AP	64	33	50	-9	2.24	5	19.42	-0.58	51	+23
Dickson_AG	66	29	52	-10	3.15	5	19.57	+0.36	54	-24
Dover_1W	65	35	51	-11	2.37	5	17.85	-1.13	79	+27
Dyersburg	70	39	56	-10	2.52	6	19.02	+1.35	106	-6
Erwin_1W	71	31	49	-8	1.73	5	15.58	-0.08	28	-20
Huntingdon_Wate	70	35	53	-11	2.61	5	19.04	+0.43	79	+17
Jackson_Exp_Stn	70	36	54	-10	2.05	5	20.97	+2.41	94	+7
Kingston_AG	64	35	50	-11	1.71	4	20.45	-0.29	53	+19
Knoxville_AP	68	36	53	-8	1.44	4	14.28	-2.88	89	+42
Lewisburg	73	32	51	-10	2.21	3	19.11	-0.31	49	-2
Lexington_TN	70	33	53	-11	2.23	4	18.83	+0.86	68	+50
Linden	70	34	53	-10	1.37	4	17.08	-2.95	74	+10
Martin	68	34	52	-11	1.85	5	17.18	-1.26	91	+20
Mc_Minnville_Tn	72	35	54	-8	1.90	5	15.44	-3.59	70	-27
Memphis_AG	72	38	56	-11	1.46	5	18.65	-0.48	98	-44
Milan	71	35	53	-10	3.09	5	18.04	-0.73	80	+8
Murfreesboro_5N	69	36	50	-12	1.74	4	19.30	+0.88	67	-59
Nashville_Metro	67	37	53	-10	2.63	3	19.09	+2.32	105	+24
Newcomb	66	32	49	-9	2.55	3	17.89	-0.62	37	+21
Oneida	65	33	49	-9	3.18	5	18.95	+0.44	43	-34
Pikeville	68	29	53	-10	1.85	5	14.96	-4.77	57	+3
Portland_TN	65	37	50	-11	4.26	3	19.43	+1.61	84	+39
Pulaski_Water_P	73	31	51	-14	1.71	4	18.86	-1.16	51	-41
Savannah_6SW	75	36	55	-11	1.77	4	19.65	-1.42	93	+26
Sparta_TN	69	30	53	-8	1.92	5	20.45	+1.12	63	+24
Springfield	66	34	50	-11	3.57	3	19.26	+1.93	83	+38
Springhill	69	31	51	-10	1.42	3	19.98	+0.10	72	+22
Union_City	67	36	53	-10	1.45	5	19.52	+1.37	62	-3
Waynesboro_TN	72	33	52	-10	2.12	4	17.36	-3.94	53	-21

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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